

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,

LIMITED.

CHEMISTS, &c.

CONFECTIONERY.

CHOCOLATES.

NOUGAT.

PRALINES.

PASTILLES.

&c. &c. &c.

BEST QUALITY OBTAINABLE.

Nos. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

LONDON, HONGKONG AND AMOY.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

WE invite attention to our first supplies

CONFECTIONERY AND

CHRISTMAS GOODS

RECEIVED BY THE LAST MAIL.

JORDAN ALMONDS, NOUGAT, BUT-

TER SCOTCH, ASSORTED TOFFEES,

DRAGEES, PRALINES, and a large selection

of PURE CONFECTIONERY from the leading

Manufacturers.

CADBURY'S SPECIAL CHOCOLATE

CREMES.

PINE, APRICOT, CHERRY, LIME,

GUAVA, and other FRUIT JELLIES in great

variety.

TOM SMITH'S CHRISTMAS CRACKERS.

COLOURED OPALS mounted in Plush,

representing favourite subjects.

A large assortment of ENGLISH and

JAPANESE CHRISTMAS CARDS, of hand-

some and artistic designs, suitable to all tastes,

and at moderate prices.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 1st November, 1891.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to

Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong

Telegraph" and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and

not to individual members of the staff.

Communications for publication must be accompanied

by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for

publication, but as evidence of good faith.

While the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always

be open for the free discussion of all questions

affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that

the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for

opinions thus expressed.

MARRIAGES.

At St. John's Cathedral, on December

10th, by the Rev. D. Hamilton, EDWARD

ROBERTS, Chinese Customs Service, Lappa,

to CLARA ANNIE, eldest daughter of the late W.

L. Evans, Esq., of Aberystwyth. Home papers

please copy.

At Union Church, Hongkong, on 10th inst,

by the Rev. G. H. Bondfield, J. ANDERSON,

of the National Bank of China, Ltd., second

surviving son of the late Alexander Anderson, Non-

hills, Ayrshire, N.B., to ISOBELLA

PARLANE HAY, younger daughter of the late

Thomas Newman, Calcutta.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1891.

A HONGKONG ICONOCLAST.

The community of Hongkong are under

very heavy obligations to the Hon. T. H.

WHITHEAD for the sturdy fight he has made

for some months past at the Legislative

Council meetings against overwhelming

odds in the vindication of public rights,

and for the consistent course he has

pursued in openly and fearlessly exposing

the utterly rotten condition of the

departmental jobbery which for so

long has so conspicuously disfigured

the Government of Hongkong. It is

much to be regretted that the energetic

member for the Chamber of Commerce has received such paltry and unreliable support from his unofficial colleagues, especially when it is remembered that their interests are the interests of the community, and their thoroughly understood, if unwritten, duties the protection of public rights. Like all representative men of independent mind who prefer the advancement of the public weal to dishonest self-aggrandisement by favoring individual monopolies, Mr. WHITHEAD has, as a matter of course, come in for the usual torrent of flutulent abuse from those peculiarly interested parties, who form that select circle of pseudo-philanthropists who prosper and grow obese by flattering themselves with the belief that they are the people of Hongkong, and that their personal well-being, whether obtained honestly or by chicanery of the most flagrant kind, is, or at least ought to be, the first and chief aim of the local legislature. But the honorable gentleman can well afford to ignore such innocuous retaliation, and laugh in his sleeve at the feeble and despairing efforts of a shipwrecked crew of unscrupulous "boodlers" who see the grand old days, with all their exclusive "good things," slowly but surely vanishing into oblivion, without having the power to stay the resistless force of a wave of political progress that has, so far as public rights are concerned, been far too long obstructed and delayed. The valuable monopolies—not to use any harsher language which might so easily be misconstrued—illegally enjoyed for so many years by the self-constituted exclusive classes, must inevitably be offered as a holocaust at the shrine of the practical reform which has at last commenced to assume a definite shape, and to thoroughly attract the attention of those particularly concerned—the general body of taxpayers, the hewers of wood and drawers of water, the sinew and backbone of the colony, the men who by their untiring labours have mainly made Hongkong what it is, and who are at length tired of being led in apron strings in the management of their own affairs by a pampered coterie of Government officials and their obsequious toadies, whose united general incompetence as men of business is only surpassed by their arrogant assumption of autocratic domination over the taxpayers on whose liberal bounties they actually exist. The extraordinary conduct indulged in recently by these official Brahmins has aroused a spirit of opposition and hostility amongst the masses that will not easily be allayed, and may lead to important changes in the existing form of municipal government much sooner than is generally expected.

Tub-thumping orators of the select after-dinner and Hongkong Club bar-persuasion, whose alcoholic meanderings so frequently grace the dry-as-dust columns of the *China Mail*, consider they have pulverised Mr. T. H. WHITHEAD when they describe him as an iconoclast. The term is a good one, and peculiarly fitting for an ardent reformer whose policy from the day he entered the Council up to the present has been practical, consistent, and aggressively hostile to the flagrant abuses of the Public Service. An iconoclast is, in dictionary phrase, "a breaker of images," and the appellation in its most opprobrious significance has been freely applied to every enlightened political reformer of this and every other age in British history. The authors of the great Reform Bill of 1832, that modern Magna Charta of British liberty, were openly reviled as iconoclasts and enemies to law and order; so were those who effected the almost equally important reforms in Municipal Corporations five years afterwards. Sir ROBERT PEEL, although a staunch Tory, had the offensive epithet indiscriminately hurled at him for his repeal of the Corn Laws; CORNBURN and JOHN BAXTER were pilloried and burned in effigy as dangerous apostles of iconoclastic radicalism, for their eloquent and effective advocacy of those grand principles of Free Trade which have made Great Britain what she is to-day, the first commercial nation in the world. Gladstone was a dangerous iconoclast when he gave the people of Ireland religious freedom and equality by disestablishing the Irish Church, and again when his famous Land Bill sought to achieve some measure of justice by ameliorating the unhappy positions of Ireland's starving peasantry. History repeats itself; yesterday we found the supporters of Irish Home Rule, PARNELL, GLADSTONE, JOHN MORLEY, and many others, held up to scorn and contumely by political opponents as firebrands who had no respect for the mildewed traditions of the past, and breakers of images that have hitherto been held sacred; to-day even Balfour declares that the time has come for Irish self-government. So that, if Mr. T. H. WHITHEAD is an iconoclast in his efforts to improve the Government of this island by advocating increased efficiency, tempered by wholesome economy, and endeavoring to abolish expensive sinecures and eradicate

departmental abuses and shortcomings that have become a public scandal as well as a grievous burden to an overtaxed community, and by dealing in a straightforward and business-like fashion with official anomalies for whose existence no comprehensible *raison d'être* has yet been satisfactorily shown by the most notoriously inexperienced and generally incompetent "official phalanx" of shallow-brained nobodies this colony has ever known—why, we can only say that the honorable gentleman has erred in excellent company, and shares the opprobrious title with some of the greatest men our country (and that means the world) has yet produced.

And, after all, what are the head and front of Mr. WHITHEAD's offending? The member for the Chamber of Commerce's political Socialism is of the very mildest description, and he has advanced his platform without the slightest symptom of personal hostility either to the Government as a whole or to any of the members forming its component parts. Viewing with the eye of an experienced financier the dangerous and uncertain fiscal policy adopted by the Government; recognising as a practical business man the utterly unreliable and deceptive Estimates formed of the colony's probable revenue for the coming year; and having brought forcibly before him day by day the strongest evidence of the general stagnation of trade, the unprecedented scarcity of money, and an all but universal state of poverty, verging on destitution, that has no parallel in Hongkong's past records, this people's representative in the Legislative Council has advocated a much needed economy in regulating the cost of local government, and especially in the direction of abolishing useless sinecures; amalgamating certain departments, some of which exist only to maintain, in comparative affluence, brainless noodles, and the reduction of grossly extravagant salaries paid to men whose usefulness is more than doubtful. That the laborer is worthy of his hire in whatever capacity he may be employed admits of no doubt whatever, and if we rightly understand Mr. WHITHEAD's proposals, he merely desires the practical application of this homely truism to all concerned, and that the Government in dealing with the taxpayers' money should be just before being ultra-generous.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 4th inst., in considering the *Appropriation Bill*, Mr. WHITHEAD proposed the following reductions in official salaries etc.:—That the Governor's salary be reduced from \$32,000 to the old figure—\$28,800; that the Colonial Secretary's salary of \$9,720 be reduced to \$7,200, including the salary of the Auditor General; that \$10,000 be deducted from the amount passed in Finance Committee for the Audit Department; that a reduction of ten per cent. be made in the vote for the Colonial Treasurer's department; and we just want to say here that the Colonial Treasury, as at present constituted, is the most scandalous monument of barefaced jobbery the colony of Hongkong has ever known, and to anybody who is sceptical or may doubt that the *Hongkong Telegraph* discountenances WASHINGTON and leave "the father of his country" miles astern as regards truthfulness, we need only refer those sceptics to the published reports of the past eighteen months; that \$2,400 be struck off for an assistant post-master who isn't here, who never is here, and who is worse than two chair-coolies when he is somewhere else; that ten per cent. be struck off the vote of \$25,940 for the Registrar General's department; and on this point we totally disagree with Mr. WHITHEAD, as our contention is, and we are prepared to carry it into practical effect if necessary, that the Registrar General's department is a pleonasm whose existence is a disgrace to British rule, and a one-sided oligarchy which ought to be "piled up" on the dust heap of things that are useless, without further delay; that \$1,000 be doctored from the vote for the Harbour Department, being the salary of an Assistant who has never been in evidence in his proper capacity; that \$5,180 be deducted from the Magistracy vote, the salary of a magistrate who spends most of his time in England and who, when he is here, makes himself and the law contemptible by his erratic and incomprehensible judgments; that \$20,000 be struck off the Military vote; and that \$10,000 for the proposed gaol extension be shelved. All those propositions were lost, all of them but two failed to find secondaries; but every one of them appeals to the best interests of the Hongkong public, and the Hon. T. H. WHITHEAD can safely rest assured that his admirably drawn-out plan of campaign against a rotten officialdom that can't even stand on its own bottom, must inevitably commend itself to those whose interests are really bound up in the commercial welfare of this most important of far distant British outposts.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The American bark *B. F. Hunt* was berthed at the Cosmopolitan dock and the ship *Georgitta* at Kowloon to-day.

TENDERS for the Hongkong Opium Farm must be lodged at the Colonial Secretary's office not later than 3 p.m. on the 20th instant.

Wild oats, says Dr. Witt Talmage, who knew what he was talking about, are generally sown in the liver, and they can't be pulled up.

With one or two trifling exceptions, the submarine cables of the world, which stretch over 120,000 nautical miles, and have cost £40,000,000, are of British construction.

Salvationist (holding up his man)—My friend, you didn't know you were on the road to perdition, did you?

Jack—Yes; talk to somebody who's lost.

LUNACY appears to have increased in Scotland to a startling extent. In 1878 there were 524 lunatics on the register of the Lunacy Commissioners, but now there are 12,595.

SENIOR Warden W. L. Ford and Bro. J. Collet of the United Service Lodge were elected on the 8th inst., as Worshipful Master and Treasurer of the Lodge, respectively, for the ensuing year.

A REGULAR meeting of the "Ararat" Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

CAPTAIN T. M. TORNOX has taken over command of the Mitsui Bishi Colliery Co.'s Hongkong-Nagasaki liner *Asagao Maru*, vice Capt. Selk, who is stopping in Hongkong just now on sick leave.

A SERIOUS fire broke out on board the *Asyria* in Kobe harbour on the 2nd inst., but with the aid of H.M.S. *Sphinx* and the police it was subdued. Incendiarism is suspected. Ultimately the vessel had to be scuttled.

A REGULAR meeting of Diligence Lodge of Instruction will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Thursday, the 17th inst., at 8 for 9.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

"NO, Harry, I am sorry; but I am sure that we could not be happy together. You know I always want my own way in everything." "But, my dear girl, you could go on wanting it, you know, after we were married."

It is said that, including the officers holding honorary rank, there are 2050 Generals in the British army, or nearly one for every 100 soldiers. And we only pay £40,000 per annum to support these cripples!

X.—"Mudge tells me he had a tough time of it during his holiday. Says he had to borrow money to get home with."

Y.—"He was in better luck than I was, for I was the man who had to lend it to him."

At the Regular Meeting of the Ethen Mark Lodge, No. 264, held last night, Bro. F. A. Hazeland was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, Wor. Bro. A. O'D. Gourdin Treasurer, and Bro. J. R. Grimble Tyler.

THERE'S a man out in the States proving that Shakespeare died of paralysis, and not of fever after a drinking bout. It is a painful discovery. Everybody thought that the immortal William had enjoyed the fun of a good old bout of D. T.'s.

THE German steamer *Hainan* on her way down from Mei got into very heavy weather a day or two ago. A report of her stormy passage will be found in our shipping columns. The poor Germans! even Joss seems to have gone back on them.

AMONG the visitors to Hongkong during the last few days is Mr. Phelps, one of the Chicago World's Fair commissioners, who has been through Japan and China and is going further west in the interests of the Centenary Exhibition directors.

"MRS. McManus—will ye lend me your poll parrot?" "Indeed, Oi won't. Oi lint ye me poodle dog want, an' whin Oi got him back he barked just like an Orlish terrier. What would become of me poll parrot? Shure, she'd have a brogue."

THE Editor of the *Hongkong Telegraph* returned this morning by the Douglas's steamer *Thales* from a flying visit to Amoy. He brought with him two fine specimens of the *Guyas-cuts*, which are likely to be on view at the City Hall very shortly.

THE orders of the day at the meeting of the Sanitary Board to be held to-morrow at 4.15 p.m. are as follows:—

Agenda.—1. Letter from the Colonial Secretary forwarding the Analyst's report of analyses made on samples of water drawn from the Tal-tam and Pok-falam mains in November, 1891. 2. Mortality Returns for the weeks ended the 28th November and 5th December, 1891. 3. Application to construct a public latrine at 44, East Street, on Island Lot 23.

Mr. E. L. Woodin, late Superintendent of the P. & O. Company at this port, was brought before Mr. Wisp at the Police Court this afternoon, on remand, Mr. A. P. Stokes prosecuted on behalf of the P. & O. Co., and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Mr. Dennis, defended. Mr. E. A. Hewitt, chief clerk at the Hongkong branch office of the "big company," gave evidence respecting the alleged falsification of accounts, which closed the case for the prosecution, and His Worship then committed the prisoner for trial at the next Criminal Sessions.

Our new Governor looks well, and he had all his holiday clothes on when he landed at Pedder's Wharf this forenoon. "Handsome is that handsome does" and we can await the result of Sir William Robinson's *debut* in actual work with that exemplary patience that has been our forte. We have no desire to be either hypocritical or offensive, but there were a few—we repeat, a few—chirrupings here in evidence this forenoon that may have been the fashion in dear old Noah's time; but things are strangely altered nowadays, and they were very popular at the top end of a flock feed on Pedder's Wharf. No ruckies reported up to the light of going to press.

THE Chinese steamer *Fushun*, which had a lively short time in collision with the Italian mail boat *Biagna* on the 3rd instant, cleared for Shanghai to-day, where she will be repaired by the Old Dock Company. What's the matter with Hongkong?

JUDGE DUFFY (to female witness): "What is your age, madam?" "Witness (hesitatingly): "I have seen twenty-three summers." Judge Duffy: "How many years were you blind?"

It has transpired that General Boulanger was terribly addicted to the morphia habit. The most dramatic incidents of his life were passed while under the influence of morphia injections. It is also ascertained that Mme. Bonnamin was a victim of the drug. Two big fools.

THE *Japan Daily Advertiser* has been enlarged, and is now quite a fine-looking paper. Since its first appearance it has always carefully avoided the faults which render the other Yokohama dailies so feeble, and this new departure bids fair to secure its pre-eminence.

He found it hard to digest.—First Cannibal (who has found a piece of rubber hose)—We are in luck; just look at this sausage; we will have a lunch.—Second Cannibal (after chewing it ten minutes)—What kind of sausage do you suppose this is?—First Cannibal—Hongkong missionary.

It is not generally known that the muscled baton is of comparatively modern invention. The orchestra leader, Lull, was the first to introduce it. Before this time they used to beat time either with the feet or by striking one hand against the other. Some batons are very costly. Mozart used one of ivory. Meyerbeer used one of solid silver.

Snail Editor—"You may take a vacation for a few days." Reporter—"What's the matter?" "I presume you noticed that we printed a bit of quite recent news to-day."

"Well, we won't have any more room for news for several days. That beat is in the way. 'Brownie' will need all our space to murmur about it."

A REPORT comes from Seoul which must be accepted with a good deal of reservation. It is to the effect that three British men-of-war have visited Port Hamilton and hoisted the British flag there. It is said that Minister Lij Loek Kel, of the Korean Government, has visited the port on board the *Hairlong*. Whether the report is accurate or not, considerable agitation prevails in Korean circles, and it is said that communications are frequent between the British and Korean authorities.

THE HON. JAMES JOHNSTONE KESWICK, unofficial member of the Legislative Council by virtue of his position as resident "boss" of Jardine, Matheson & Co., says that the revenue of Hongkong is not elastic. Mr. Keswick once said this before, and he said he was quite right. We repeat it: the revenue of Hongkong is not elastic. It is all the other way, especially when the wretched taxpayers of the colony have to pay for utterly useless Registrar Generals, Assistant Harbour Masters, Colonial Treasurers, Superintendents of Gaols, Assistant Post-masters, and a crowd of other loafers who ought to be dead or something, or somewhere. Yes! that's our policy.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial Hospital begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospital:—

Lo Tse Hing.....	\$ 50
Wong A Pook.....	25
Douglas Lapsack's Comprodone.....	25
Mok Man Sheng.....	25
Pan Fon.....	25
Wai Lun Sh.....	25
Yuen Fat Hong.....	25
Lum Kun Ting.....	10
Wong A Hang.....	10
Lo Tse Chong.....	5
N. O. B. Comprodone.....	5

A MASSACHUSETTS inventor has devised a double-hull ship, with compartments so arranged and constructed that it supplies, he asserts, a mathematical certainty against sinking. Between the outer and inner shells of the vessel is a series of longitudinal compartments, to be filled with water, and emptied by this section, on either side, and rising to the full height of the vessel's sides, is a series of chambers filled with small air-tight tanks, their capacity being figured in excess of the known displacement of the ship and cargo. Thus, a cubic foot of air has a perfect supporting capacity for a known weight. It is claimed that with a supply of air in these tanks of 25 per cent. above that required by the formula, nothing short of fragmentary destruction could sink a vessel. Any probable collision, the penetration of a shot or the explosion of a torpedo, would injure only a small proportion of the tanks, the rest performing their work easily and safely, thus rendering the vessel non-sinkable, the only sacrifice involved in the arrangement being a decreased carrying capacity.

TRUS the *Atlantic City Convention* was a very vexed question, the freedom of the Press, and if the Federal Government desires to scrap out the lottery evil there will be little objection on the part of the people and the press, but if it gives irresponsible underlings the power to stamp out the press when it exercises its right to discuss the law, the result will be not only opposition, but indignation and trouble all along the line.

"Just now the papers are having a good deal to say about the arrest of a Wisconsin editor because he published a clipping from an exchange questioning the validity of the anti-lottery law. If the arrest was made for nothing more than this, then it is putting it mildly to say that our Government has become 'Rationalized' so far as its treatment of the press is concerned."

"This policy will not work." If lotteries cannot be destroyed without also destroying the freedom of the press, the people will be in favor of letting the lotteries alone. We cannot afford to yield our right to speak and publish our criticisms of public measures. If we yield the right in one instance, we may expect to be forced to keep silence whenever it suits the Government to demand it.

"Fortunately it is no easy matter to bulldoze the newspapers of America. The *Miner's* of fine and imprisonment will intimidate very few. No matter what Federal officials may hold, the newspaper men of the country will not change their conviction that an honest criticism or discussion of the provisions contained in the anti-lottery law cannot, with any show of justice, be held to be a violation of that law. If they are mistaken in this belief, then the law will have to be repealed, or modified. In this respect the Government cannot array itself against the press and have the support of the people."

A LOT of interesting matter, especially in reference to affairs maritime, is unavoidably held over. The Office Goat got loose this afternoon, and the whole of the staff were on the job looking after the runaway. On returning home William said he was looking after "Brownie." We have tied up our "Only Fox" and given "Brownie" a short holiday. This ought to satisfy everybody.

ACCORDING to Captain Dinklage of the German Observatory, who examined the logs of 180 ships per year on (and some voyages from 1890 to 1889, there was no instance of a vessel thoroughly equipped with wire rigging having been struck and damaged by lightning. Only fourteen strokes of lightning were recorded in all the logs he examined, and all those ships had been rigging. His theory is that the wire ropes serve as lightning conductors, and the lightning travels down them to the water.

TO-DAY'S SHIPPING RETURNS.

Inward.	
Hainan.....	steamer, from Kobe.
Thales.....	Italian mail, from Shanghai.
Amoy.....	steamer, from Canton.
K. of Japan.....	steamer, from Vancouver.
Aggregating 5,284 tons, register.	

Outward.	
Elie.....	steamer, for Holhow.
Fushun.....	steamer, for Shanghai.
Smith.....	steamer, for Canton.
Kiang Ping.....	steamer, for Shanghai.
Alvina.....	steamer, for Hithow.
Thamson.....	steamer, for Canton.
Koskila.....	steamer, for Singapore, &c.
Leo Sisk.....	steamer, for Swatow, &c.
Shanghai.....	steamer, for Nankai.
Lothar.....	bark, for Callao.
Aggregating 10,013 tons, register.	

Fairplay thinks that "get'em again!" will be the remark of Lord Randolph Churchill's friends on reading his wonderful account of his adventures amongst the lions in Africa, which noble beast seems, after all, to be as harmless as the lions of Belgravia. "Pity they didn't eat the little beggar," will be the remark of his lordship's enemies, if he has any. Truly, we never read a more astounding story.

Lions to right of him;

Lions to left of him;

Lions in front of him;

Scuttling like thunder.

That seems to have been about the history of the affair. In one of his letters the hero alluded to the distant and dubious roar of a lion which somebody had heard, or said he had heard. That was only a prelude to what was to follow. On the next day Lord Randolph found himself in the middle of a flock of lions dashing about right and left like rabbits in a turnip field. He was not afraid, of course, he goes on saying, saying though when a man says he is not afraid of circumstances which would make ordinary people nervous, scepticism sometimes arises. Anyway, any man, except the editor of an independent journal, would have been in a perfectly blue and green funk, but then, deuced few people have been leaders of the House of Commons, like "Randy."

ARRIVAL OF SIR WILLIAM ROBINSON.

At seven o'clock this morning the Canadian Pacific liner *Empress of Japan* was signalled, and by eight o'clock she was at her buoy in the harbour, having made an exceptionally good run. From November 20th, when she left Vancouver, her daily mileage was 318, 350, 357, 373, 388, 470, 474, 372, 354, 320, and 254 up to Yokohama, December 3rd; the left Shanghai on Tuesday, and reached here in 49 hours. A gun was fired as soon as she sighted from the Peak, and on reaching her berth a gun was fired from the ship. The preparations for his Excellency's reception were not yet complete, and the wharf steps were only half covered with red rag and scrambling coolies when the Government launch from the steamer's side arrived. It only contained one or two Hongkong officials, so that no harm was done.

When the Governor's party left the *Empress* a salute of 21 guns was fired. His Excellency Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G., Lady Robinson, Miss Robinson, and Master Robinson were received on Pedder's Wharf by Major-General Digby Barker, and the various consuls and Government officials—including Mitchell-Jones, who wore a hat that must have descended to him from a long line of warlike ancestors—were presented. On landing a salute was fired from Murray Battery, and after a few minutes' occupation in greetings, the whole company, with the Regimental guard of honour, and a large crowd of civilians, went up to the Council Hall, where the salutes were administered by the Chief Justice before the Executive Council and an interested assembly of ladies and gentlemen. After the Commission appointing him had been read by the Clerk of Councils, Sir William Robinson, speaking in a clear, ringing voice, took to his seat of allegiance, and the Governor's oath, as it then said—Nothing more remains to me except to thank your Excellency (Major-General Barker) and the ladies and gentlemen here present for the very cordial reception you have given me. It has been, I believe, usual to make a speech on these occasions, but I do not think that is necessary. I have just taken a solemn oath to do my duty, and I think I can rely on you all, as I do all subjects, to assist me in the performance of the solemn and important duties I undertake. I only hope that our official relations will be as satisfactory, and that our social relations will be equally cordial. (Applause.) That concluded the show.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed and correspondents to this column.)

"VERITAS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir—I happened to-day

